

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
EASTERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
vs.) No. 4:15-CR-404 HEA
)
CHARLES THOMPSON,)
)
Defendant.)

TRANSCRIPT OF CHANGE OF PLEA HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE HENRY E. AUTREY
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

January 28, 2020

APPEARANCES:

For Plaintiff: Mr. Thomas S. Rea
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For Defendant: Mr. Henry Michael Miller, Jr.
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Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography, produced by
computer-aided transcription.

1 (The following proceedings were held in open court
2 on January 28, 2020 at 2:38 p.m.):

3 THE COURT: This is the matter of the United States
4 of America versus Charles Thompson, Case No. 4:15-CR-404 HEA.
5 The matter now comes before the Court on notice of change of
6 plea. The parties, therefore, have provided to the Court a
7 document entitled Guilty Plea Agreement. That document
8 consists of 19 pages.

9 Defendant now appears in person with counsel,
10 Mr. Henry Miller. The government appears through Mr. Tom
11 Rea.

12 Mr. Miller, on behalf of the defendant are you ready
13 to proceed?

14 MR. MILLER: We are, yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Rea, on behalf of the United States
16 are you ready to proceed?

17 MR. REA: Yes, Your Honor. Thank you.

18 THE COURT: Is there an announcement at this time,
19 Mr. Miller?

20 MR. MILLER: There is, Your Honor. After extensive
21 discovery and work and discussions in this case leading up to
22 this point, Mr. Thompson would like to withdraw his earlier
23 pleas of not guilty to the charges and enter a plea of guilty
24 today if the Court will so allow.

25 THE COURT: Very well. Will you swear in the

1 defendant.

2 (Defendant sworn.)

3 THE COURT: Would you state your full name for the
4 record, please.

5 THE DEFENDANT: Charles Thompson.

6 THE COURT: And, Mr. Thompson, did you hear the
7 statement I made a moment ago?

8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

9 THE COURT: And is that a correct statement of why
10 we are in court today?

11 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

12 THE COURT: So then you understand that before I can
13 accept your plea of guilty there are some questions I have to
14 ask you to be sure your plea is valid. Okay?

15 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

16 THE COURT: So in that regard if I say something and
17 you don't understand me, let me know and I'll repeat it or
18 rephrase it. If I say something and you don't hear me, let
19 me know that and I'll speak louder. If at any time during
20 this proceeding you need or want to talk to your lawyer, let
21 me know and I'll give you that opportunity. Okay?

22 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

23 THE COURT: Also keep in mind that you have taken an
24 oath to answer all these questions truthfully, which means
25 your failure to do that could cause the United States to come

1 back against you with a new indictment for perjury. Do you
2 understand that?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: Any questions about any of that?

5 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

6 THE COURT: How old are you, Mr. Thompson?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Thirty-three.

8 THE COURT: And how far in school have you gone?

9 THE DEFENDANT: I went to the 11th at Sumner High
10 School, and then I went to -- I mean, I did GED in Pacific
11 prison through St. Louis University.

12 THE COURT: And did you get your GED?

13 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

14 THE COURT: And about when was that?

15 THE DEFENDANT: 2012 or '13 at Eastern District
16 Reception Diagnostic Center.

17 THE COURT: Okay. Good. Do you have any difficulty
18 hearing?

19 THE DEFENDANT: No.

20 THE COURT: Do you have any difficulty speaking or
21 understanding English?

22 THE DEFENDANT: No.

23 THE COURT: Have you taken any kind of medication
24 before coming to court today that might keep you from
25 understanding what's going on in court today?

1 THE DEFENDANT: No.

2 THE COURT: Have you used any alcohol or drugs
3 before coming to court today?

4 THE DEFENDANT: No.

5 THE COURT: Have you used any alcohol or drugs in
6 the last 36 hours?

7 THE DEFENDANT: No.

8 THE COURT: Have you ever been treated for having or
9 diagnosed as having any type of mental illness or mental
10 disease?

11 THE DEFENDANT: No.

12 THE COURT: Have you ever used or taken any type of
13 medication without prescription that might typically be used
14 to treat mental illness or mental disease?

15 THE DEFENDANT: No.

16 THE COURT: How are you feeling today, Mr. Thompson?

17 THE DEFENDANT: I'm okay.

18 THE COURT: In your own words tell me why you've
19 come to court today. What do you want to do?

20 THE DEFENDANT: I was changing my plea of not guilty
21 to guilty.

22 THE COURT: All right. You know of any reason,
23 Mr. Miller, why the Court should not conclude your client
24 competent to proceed at this time?

25 MR. MILLER: No, sir.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Rea?

2 MR. REA: No, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Let the record then reflect that upon
4 examination of the defendant and upon inquiry of counsel as
5 well as the Court's observation of the defendant during this
6 part of the colloquy, the Court concludes that the defendant
7 is competent to proceed at this time.

8 Having so concluded, the Court will proceed with a
9 review of the requirements of Local Rule 13.05.

10 (Pursuant to Rule 13.05, a conference was held on
11 the record and placed under seal; after which the following
12 proceedings continued in open court:)

13 THE COURT: Having done so, Mr. Thompson, have you
14 had the opportunity to meet with your lawyer and talk with
15 him about your case?

16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

17 THE COURT: And do you feel that you've had
18 sufficient time and ample opportunity to meet with him and
19 talk with him?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

21 THE COURT: And during those times that you have met
22 with Mr. Miller, has he given you advice regarding your case?

23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

24 THE COURT: Are you satisfied with all of the advice
25 that he has given you?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

2 THE COURT: Has he answered all of your questions
3 fully, completely, and to your satisfaction?

4 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

5 THE COURT: Is there anything that you needed to
6 know about your case or that you wanted to know about your
7 case that still confuses you?

8 THE DEFENDANT: No.

9 THE COURT: Is there anything at all about your case
10 that you still do not understand?

11 THE DEFENDANT: No.

12 THE COURT: Were there any witnesses that you wanted
13 your lawyer to contact or that he should have contacted but
14 did not contact for you?

15 THE DEFENDANT: No, he did everything.

16 THE COURT: Was there any investigation that you
17 wanted him to do or that he should have done for you that he
18 didn't do?

19 THE DEFENDANT: No, he did it.

20 THE COURT: Was there any information that you
21 wanted him to get from the government regarding your case or
22 that he should have gotten from the government about your
23 case that he didn't get?

24 THE DEFENDANT: No.

25 THE COURT: Was there anything at all that you

1 wanted your lawyer to do for you in this case that he has
2 failed to do or refused to do in your behalf?

3 THE DEFENDANT: No.

4 THE COURT: Are you fully satisfied with all the
5 work that Mr. Miller has done for you?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Do you have any complaints against him
8 as your attorney?

9 THE DEFENDANT: No.

10 THE COURT: And do you understand that when you
11 plead guilty today it means you're giving up your right to a
12 trial by jury?

13 THE DEFENDANT: Yeah.

14 THE COURT: Do you understand that the Constitution
15 and laws of this nation guarantees you the right to have your
16 case decided by a jury of 12 impartial citizens?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18 THE COURT: And did you talk to your lawyer about
19 all of that?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

21 THE COURT: And as a result of that discussion have
22 you now concluded that you do want to give up your right to a
23 trial by jury and plead guilty here today?

24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

25 THE COURT: All right. You understand, though,

1 Mr. Thompson, that if you did go to trial you would be
2 presumed innocent and it would be the obligation of the
3 United States to prove you guilty beyond a reasonable doubt
4 by competent evidence?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

6 THE COURT: Do you further understand that you would
7 not be required to put on any kind of evidence to prove
8 yourself innocent?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

10 THE COURT: You also understand that if you were to
11 go to trial you would have the right to confront any and all
12 witnesses that the United States might have against you?

13 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

14 THE COURT: And in that regard you understand you
15 would then be able to cross-examine those witnesses as they
16 testified in open court, under oath, and in front of a jury?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18 THE COURT: Do you further understand that at trial
19 you would have the ability to object to any and all evidence
20 that the government might attempt to introduce against you?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

22 THE COURT: And do you understand you would also
23 have the ability to present evidence in your own defense or
24 otherwise if you so chose, but the law does not require you
25 to put on any kind of evidence for any purpose?

1 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

2 THE COURT: Do you also understand that if you were
3 to go to trial you would have the right to testify or not
4 testify?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

6 THE COURT: And do you understand that if you
7 decided that you did not want to testify in the case, the
8 fact that you did not testify could not be used by anyone for
9 any purpose?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Any questions so far?

12 THE DEFENDANT: No.

13 THE COURT: All right. And do you further
14 understand, Mr. Thompson, that if you go forward with your
15 plea of guilty here today and if I accept your plea of
16 guilty, I will enter a judgment finding you guilty beyond a
17 reasonable doubt and impose a sentence on some future date?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Do you understand that whatever sentence
20 I impose is entirely up to me?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

22 THE COURT: And do you understand that that's true
23 even though you might have some agreement between yourself
24 and the United States on things regarding sentencing?

25 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

1 THE COURT: And, finally, do you understand that
2 when you plead guilty here today it means you're giving up
3 your right to not incriminate yourself under the Fifth
4 Amendment of the Constitution of the United States because
5 you will have to admit the facts that establish the basis for
6 the crime as well as admit the crime itself?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

8 THE COURT: And is that what you want to do here
9 today?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

11 THE COURT: All right. In relation to the charges
12 that bring you here today, Mr. Thompson, have you had the
13 opportunity to review the indictment in this case with your
14 lawyer?

15 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

16 THE COURT: And as a result of that review are you
17 satisfied that you understand everything in the indictment?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

19 THE COURT: Do you have any questions about anything
20 in the indictment?

21 THE DEFENDANT: No.

22 THE COURT: Are you also aware of the range of
23 punishment that applies to the charges in the indictment?

24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

25 THE COURT: And did you talk about that with your

1 lawyer as well?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Any questions about the range of
4 punishment?

5 THE DEFENDANT: No.

6 THE COURT: For the record, Mr. Rea, what's the
7 applicable range of punishment here?

8 MR. REA: Judge, Mr. Thompson is pleading guilty to
9 Counts 14 through 18. As it relates to Count 14, the maximum
10 possible penalty provided by the law is a term of
11 imprisonment of not less than five years and not more than 40
12 years, a fine of not more than \$5 million, or both such
13 imprisonment and fine. The Court shall also impose a period
14 of supervised release of not less than four years and not
15 more than life. The defendant understands as it relates to
16 Count 14, the crime to which he's pleading guilty has a
17 mandatory term of imprisonment of at least five years.

18 Counts 15, 16, 17, and 18 all have the same
19 applicability. The defendant understands the maximum
20 possible penalty provided by law for each one of those counts
21 is imprisonment of not less than ten years nor more than life
22 consecutive to any other sentence imposed, a fine of not more
23 than \$250,000, or both such imprisonment and fine. The Court
24 shall impose a period of supervised release of not less than
25 three years nor more than life for each of Counts 15, 16, 17,

1 and 18. And, again, as it relates to those four counts
2 there's a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of at least
3 ten years imprisonment to be served consecutive to any other
4 sentence imposed. And as it relates to each one of the
5 counts to which Mr. Thompson is pleading guilty, there is a
6 \$100 mandatory special assessment.

7 Thank you, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Thank you. With respect to the
9 consecutive nature of the sentences, Mr. Rea, so that the
10 record is clear, Counts 15, 16, 17, and 18 necessarily have
11 to be run consecutive to any other counts so they would be
12 run consecutive necessarily to Count 14?

13 MR. REA: And each other.

14 THE COURT: And each other. That's the
15 clarification I was looking for. Thank you.

16 Did you hear all of that, Mr. Thompson?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18 THE COURT: All right. And is there anything that
19 was said just now by Mr. Rea or by me for clarification that
20 surprised you in any way?

21 THE DEFENDANT: No.

22 THE COURT: Is anyone forcing you to plead guilty
23 today?

24 THE DEFENDANT: No.

25 THE COURT: Has anyone threatened you to make you

1 plead guilty?

2 THE DEFENDANT: No.

3 THE COURT: Has anyone promised you anything in
4 exchange for your plea of guilty today?

5 THE DEFENDANT: No.

6 THE COURT: Has anyone made threats against close
7 friends or family members to make you plead guilty today?

8 THE DEFENDANT: No.

9 THE COURT: Have any of your close friends or family
10 members threatened you or otherwise coerced you into pleading
11 guilty for some reason?

12 THE DEFENDANT: No.

13 THE COURT: Are you then pleading guilty voluntarily
14 and of your own free will because that is what you want to do
15 in this case?

16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

17 THE COURT: When we started out, Mr. Thompson, I
18 made a reference to the Guilty Plea Agreement, the last page
19 of which shows your name in print with a signature above the
20 printed name of Charles Thompson. Is that your signature?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

22 THE COURT: And before you signed this document on
23 page 19 did you review it in its entirety with your lawyer --

24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

25 THE COURT: -- and talk about the Guilty Plea

1 Agreement with him in detail?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

3 THE COURT: And as a result of that review and
4 discussion are you satisfied that you understand everything
5 that's set out in this 19-page Guilty Plea Agreement?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Do you have any questions about anything
8 in the Guilty Plea Agreement?

9 THE DEFENDANT: No.

10 THE COURT: Mr. Rea, if you would, would you tell
11 the substance of the Guilty Plea Agreement as it relates to
12 the rights and obligations of the parties. Listen carefully,
13 Mr. Thompson. When he's finished I'm going to have some
14 questions for you. And then after that we'll talk about the
15 facts in relation to the charges in the indictment that you
16 intend to plead guilty to. And then I'll have some questions
17 for you after that too. Okay. All right. Mr. Rea.

18 MR. REA: Thank you, Your Honor. The 19-page
19 document contains 12 numbered sections.

20 Section 1 identifies the parties to the agreement.
21 It also notes that the Court is neither a party to nor bound
22 by the agreement.

23 Section 2 summarizes the sum and substance of the
24 guilty plea. Among other things in exchange for
25 Mr. Thompson's guilty plea to Counts 14 through 18, the

1 United States agrees that no further federal prosecution will
2 be brought in this district relative to Mr. Thompson's
3 conspiracy to distribute cocaine, discharge of a firearm in
4 furtherance of drug trafficking where death results, and
5 discharge of a firearm in furtherance of drug trafficking as
6 has been charged in the fifth superseding indictment of which
7 the government is aware of at this time.

8 Under the plea agreement either party is permitted
9 to request a sentence above or below the Sentencing Guideline
10 range.

11 Section 3 sets forth the specific elements of each
12 count to which Mr. Thompson is pleading guilty.

13 Section 4 sets forth a statement of relevant facts
14 which will be discussed in greater detail here with the Court
15 shortly.

16 Section 5 sets forth the statutory penalties which
17 have previously been announced here in open court.

18 Section 6 sets forth the parties' anticipated
19 application of the various Sentencing Guidelines to
20 Mr. Thompson's case.

21 Section 7 sets forth the waiver of appeal and post-
22 conviction rights.

23 Section 8 lists a number of additional provisions
24 contained within the agreement, among others discusses
25 disclosures to be made to the probation office, the fact that

1 other administrative or civil actions are not barred by
2 virtue of this Guilty Plea Agreement, detailed supervised
3 release and the need of the mandatory special assessment,
4 fines, restitution, and costs as well as forfeiture of any
5 items seized.

6 Moving on to Section 9 sets forth acknowledgment and
7 waiver of defendant's rights.

8 Section 10 identifies the voluntary nature of this
9 guilty plea and plea agreement.

10 Section 11 details the consequences of any post-plea
11 misconduct.

12 Section 12 sets forth that there is no right to
13 withdraw this guilty plea once it has been entered.

14 And as the Court noted, this document has been
15 executed by the parties on January 28th, 2020, on page 19 of
16 the document.

17 Thank you, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Thank you. Did you hear everything that
19 Mr. Rea just said regarding the Guilty Plea Agreement?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

21 THE COURT: And is there anything that he said
22 regarding the Guilty Plea Agreement just now that came as a
23 surprise to you?

24 THE DEFENDANT: No, sir.

25 THE COURT: The Court will then approve of the

1 Guilty Plea Agreement as set forth on the record.

2 Mr. Thompson, has anybody given you a prediction or
3 given you a promise regarding what your sentence from me is
4 going to be?

5 THE DEFENDANT: No.

6 THE COURT: And, again, you understand that whatever
7 that sentence is, it's entirely up to me?

8 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

9 THE COURT: And with that in mind do you still want
10 to go forward with your Guilty Plea Agreement here today?

11 THE DEFENDANT: Yeah.

12 THE COURT: Tell us then if you would, Mr. Rea, what
13 the evidence would have been if the matter had gone to trial
14 that would establish a basis for each charge, the relevant
15 conduct of the defendant, and a basis by which one might
16 conclude defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt as to
17 each Count 14 through 18 individually and collectively.

18 MR. REA: And just because of the nature of this
19 proceeding and future proceedings, the government is required
20 to read in the statement of facts in its entirety, so I'd
21 just ask the Court's indulgence while I do so in that regard.

22 THE COURT: Certainly.

23 MR. REA: Thank you, Judge. The defendant is
24 originally from an area in St. Louis commonly known as the
25 "Blumeyer." Defendant was familiar with Anthony Jordan. The

1 defendant understood Anthony Jordan to be a drug trafficker.
2 Defendant was also familiar with Michael Brooks, Anthony
3 Miller, Darwin Anderson, and Lawrence Richardson, each of
4 whom defendant understood to be involved in drug trafficking.
5 Defendant also knew that each of these individuals possessed
6 and used firearms in furtherance of their respective drug
7 trafficking.

8 Prior to 2012, Anthony Jordan and his associates,
9 including Michael Brooks, supplied kilogram quantities of
10 cocaine to members of the Blumeyer including, but not limited
11 to, Montez Woods. Montez Woods, in turn, would supply
12 cocaine to other Blumeyer members, including Anthony
13 Anderson. Defendant understands that, on at least one
14 occasion, Anthony Anderson was robbed of cocaine that had
15 originated from Anthony Jordan. Neither Anthony Anderson nor
16 Montez Woods repaid Michael Brooks or Anthony Jordan for the
17 cocaine supplied but taken.

18 On or about May 20, 2012, Anthony Jordan and Michael
19 Brooks murdered Montez Woods. With the death of Montez
20 Woods, Anthony Anderson became the predominant drug
21 trafficker within the Blumeyer. On or about June 2nd, 2013,
22 Michael Brooks was killed by members of the Blumeyer in
23 retaliation for the murder of Montez Woods. Individuals
24 directly responsible for the death of Michael Brooks
25 included, but were not limited to, Anthony Anderson and

1 Terrell Beasley.

2 Defendant was incarcerated from approximately
3 May 2006 to November 2014.

4 Among other things, defendant desired to be a
5 significant drug trafficker within the St. Louis area upon
6 his release. Anthony Jordan was his best primary source of
7 drug supply once defendant was released. Anthony Jordan was
8 an individual who could eliminate potential drug trafficking
9 competition within the Blumeyer through acts of violence
10 Anthony Jordan and his associates would commit. To that end,
11 the defendant, acting with others, provided information to
12 assist Anthony Jordan in successfully committing acts of
13 violence with one or more firearms which, in turn, provided
14 defendant with greater ability to spearhead drug trafficking
15 activities within the St. Louis area once defendant was
16 released from prison.

17 Defendant utilized other individuals such as Gloria
18 Ward and Lawrence Richardson to convey information to Anthony
19 Jordan and others. On at least one occasion, defendant sent
20 a handwritten letter to Anthony Jordan via Gloria Ward. (The
21 letter was not mailed directly to Anthony Jordan.) Defendant
22 also had frequent telephone communication with Gloria Ward.
23 On at least one occasion, defendant was aware that Anthony
24 Jordan was present with Gloria Ward while defendant and
25 Gloria Ward spoke and that Anthony Jordan was listening to

1 the content of their telephone conversation. Defendant
2 commonly referred to Anthony Jordan as "T.T." -- the letters
3 T and T -- "Godfather," and "Bruh." The information
4 defendant provided was typically obtained by defendant
5 directly from his associates within the Blumeyer or based on
6 information defendant knew about the habits and customs of
7 his associates within the Blumeyer.

8 Anthony Jordan, Anthony Jordan's associates, or
9 individuals acting on Anthony Jordan's behalf would place
10 money on defendant's correctional facility bank account. A
11 name commonly used by Anthony Jordan or his associates when
12 placing money on defendant's correctional facility bank
13 account was "Jason Smith."

14 Defendant specifically sought the death of Anthony
15 Anderson for, among other reasons, Anthony Anderson's
16 involvement in the drug robberies which, in turn, resulted in
17 the deaths of Montez Woods and Michael Brooks. The killing
18 of Michael Brooks resulted in Anthony Jordan killing multiple
19 individuals associated with the Blumeyer area by use of a
20 firearm.

21 Further, the defendant viewed Anthony Anderson as
22 one of the predominant drug traffickers within the Blumeyer.
23 Defendant wanted Anthony Jordan and his associates to kill
24 Anthony Anderson so defendant could be the primary drug
25 trafficker within the Blumeyer and beyond once released from

1 prison. To that end, defendant, acting with others, provided
2 specific information to Anthony Jordan about Anthony
3 Anderson. Anthony Jordan was directly involved in the
4 shooting of Anthony Anderson on December 23rd, 2013, in the
5 City of St. Louis.

6 Similarly, defendant specifically identified Terrell
7 Beasley as one of the individuals directly involved in the
8 murder of Michael Brooks and someone who continued to pose a
9 threat to Anthony Jordan. Defendant provided the identity of
10 Terrell Beasley for the purpose of, and with the
11 understanding that, Anthony Jordan would kill Terrell Beasley
12 by use of a firearm. With Terrell Beasley eliminated, the
13 defendant believed that the defendant would have greater
14 ability to spearhead drug trafficking activities within the
15 St. Louis area once defendant was released from prison.

16 Further, victim Terrell Beasley was also targeted in
17 retaliation for the June 2012 Brooks' murder and to
18 preemptively eliminate a potential Blumeyer member who might
19 seek to harm Anthony Jordan and his associates. Anthony
20 Jordan was directly involved in the shootings of Terrell
21 Beasley on July 1, 2013, and August 8, 2013, in the City of
22 St. Louis.

23 The defendant specifically identified Robert Parker
24 as a threat to Anthony Jordan. Defendant provided the
25 identity of Robert Parker for the purpose of, and with the

1 understanding that, Anthony Jordan would kill Robert Parker
2 by use of a firearm. With Robert Parker eliminated,
3 defendant believed defendant would have greater ability to
4 spearhead drug trafficking activities within the St. Louis
5 area once defendant was released from prison.

6 Victim Parker was associated with the Blumeyer.
7 Among other things, victim Parker was also targeted in
8 retaliation for the June 2012 Brooks' murder and to
9 preemptively eliminate a potential Blumeyer member who might
10 seek to harm Anthony Jordan and his associates. Prior to
11 victim Parker's murder, defendant, acting with others,
12 provided Anthony Jordan information about victim Parker which
13 directly assisted Anthony Jordan in successfully carrying out
14 the murder. Jordan shot and killed victim Parker with malice
15 aforethought and premeditation on or about December 29, 2013,
16 within the City of St. Louis. Therefore, Anthony Jordan's
17 killing of victim Parker was murder in the first degree.
18 During the course of shooting victim Parker, one or more
19 bullets discharged during the shooting entered the apartment
20 of victim Clara Walker striking her and killing her.

21 Defendant was aware that Michail Gridiron was a
22 threat to Anthony Jordan. Defendant provided the location of
23 Gridiron for the purpose of, and with the understanding that,
24 Anthony Jordan would kill Gridiron by use of a firearm. With
25 Gridiron eliminated, defendant believed defendant would have

1 greater ability to spearhead drug trafficking activities
2 within the St. Louis area once defendant was released from
3 prison.

4 Victim Gridiron was associated with the Blumeyer.
5 Among other things, Gridiron was also targeted in retaliation
6 to the June 2012 Brooks' murder and to preemptively eliminate
7 a potential Blumeyer member who might seek to harm Anthony
8 Jordan and his associates. Prior to Gridiron's murder, the
9 defendant acting with others, provided Anthony Jordan
10 information about victim Gridiron which directly assisted
11 Anthony Jordan in successfully carrying out the murder.
12 Further, the defendant, acting with others, told Anthony
13 Jordan that Gridiron and others were seeking to affirmatively
14 harm Darwin Anderson and were taking proactive steps to
15 locate and harm Darwin Anderson. Darwin Anderson was Michael
16 Brooks' and Gloria Ward's cousin. Defendant provided this
17 information with the belief that it would increase the speed
18 with which Anthony Jordan sought to murder Gridiron and
19 others.

20 Anthony Jordan shot and killed victim Gridiron with
21 malice aforethought and premeditation on or about January 21,
22 2014 within the City of St. Louis. Therefore, Anthony
23 Jordan's killing of victim Gridiron was murder in the first
24 degree.

25 Defendant understood Dion Stovall to be providing

1 money, firearms, and other support to members of the Blumeyer
2 who were interested in retaliating against Anthony Jordan for
3 his repeated acts of violence against the Blumeyer group.
4 Defendant specifically identified Dion Stovall as a target
5 for Anthony Jordan. Defendant provided the identity of Dion
6 Stovall for the purpose of, and with the understanding that,
7 Anthony Jordan would kill Dion Stovall by use of a firearm.
8 With Dion Stovall eliminated, defendant believed defendant
9 would have greater ability to spearhead drug trafficking
10 activities in the St. Louis area once defendant was released
11 from prison. Anthony Jordan was directly involved in the
12 murder of Dion Stovall on March 5th, 2014 in the City of St.
13 Louis.

14 Once released from the Missouri Department of
15 Corrections, defendant met on at least one occasion with
16 Anthony Jordan and others to discuss, among other things,
17 Anthony Jordan or his associates serving as a source of drug
18 supply for defendant. Anthony Jordan also provided sums of
19 money and other items of value to the defendant.

20 In March 2015, defendant purchased seven ounces of
21 heroin from Anthony Jordan for approximately \$1,650 per
22 ounce. Defendant also purchased heroin and cocaine from
23 Anthony Jordan's associate, Anthony Miller, for approximately
24 \$1,650 and \$1,000 per ounce, respectively, as well as
25 marijuana for between approximately \$2,600 to \$3,400 per

1 pound based on the marijuana's quality. Defendant believed
2 that Anthony Jordan was the source of supply for Anthony
3 Miller's cocaine. The defendant also traveled with Anthony
4 Jordan, and sometimes others, to locations such as Phoenix,
5 Arizona and Panama City, Florida for the purpose of
6 establishing additional sources of supply. By virtue of this
7 plea agreement, the defendant admits that the amount of
8 cocaine for which he may be held accountable is in excess of
9 500 grams.

10 Shortly after Anthony Jordan provided the defendant
11 heroin, the defendant was robbed of the heroin and money.
12 Following the robbery, Jordan provided firearms to the
13 defendant. Defendant understood that Anthony Jordan wanted
14 defendant to use the firearms to protect defendant's drug
15 trade and, by extension, the drugs supplied to defendant by
16 Anthony Jordan.

17 Anthony Jordan was commonly in the possession of two
18 .40 caliber semiautomatic pistols or two .45 caliber
19 semiautomatic pistols. Anthony Jordan also commonly
20 possessed larger firearms. Anthony Jordan drove multiple
21 different vehicles, including rental vehicles. Anthony
22 Jordan routinely rented vehicles from a specific female
23 associate working for a specific rental car company located
24 in the St. Louis area.

25 Anthony Jordan showed the defendant photographs of

1 information that he, that being Anthony Jordan, compiled
2 while in the process of attempting to harm various
3 individuals.

4 On more than one occasion, Anthony Jordan showed
5 defendant information on one or more mobile phones about
6 individuals Anthony Jordan had killed. Jordan separately
7 advised defendant that he had unique access to deceased
8 individuals. One such deceased individual to whom Anthony
9 Jordan had unique access was an individual identified by the
10 initials T.B. Among other things, Anthony Jordan described
11 to the defendant that he wanted T.B.'s body to be created so
12 that T.B. could not have a proper funeral or burial, and that
13 he (Anthony Jordan) "smacked" T.B. in the face while T.B.'s
14 body was being stored within a specific funeral home.
15 Anthony Jordan showed photos of T.B.'s body to the defendant.

16 On various occasions, Anthony Jordan also showed
17 additional photographs and/or videos of acts of violence and
18 deceased individuals including, but not limited to, Michael
19 Aiken; Deandre Thomas; and surveillance footage taken in and
20 during the course of the murder of Orlando Jones on
21 December 18, 2004.

22 Your Honor, this is a summary of the relevant facts
23 the United States of America has in relation to this
24 defendant. It is also the statement of facts that is set
25 forth under Section 4 of the parties' Plea Agreement covering

1 pages 4 through 10 of that agreement.

2 Thank you, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Thank you. Mr. Thompson, did you hear
4 all those facts stated by Mr. Rea as they relates to Counts
5 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18?

6 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

7 THE COURT: And as to each of those counts, are
8 those facts true and correct?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Regarding Count 14, beginning at a time
11 unknown but up to and including 2012 through and including
12 January 29th, 2016 within the Eastern District of Missouri
13 and elsewhere, did two or more persons reach an agreement or
14 come to an understanding to distribute cocaine?

15 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

16 THE COURT: And did you voluntarily and
17 intentionally join in the agreement or understanding either
18 at the time it was first reached or at some later time while
19 it was still in effect?

20 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

21 THE COURT: At the time you joined in the agreement
22 or understanding, did you know the purpose of the agreement
23 or understanding?

24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

25 THE COURT: And did the agreement or understanding

1 involve cocaine?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

3 THE COURT: And was the quantity of cocaine involved
4 in excess of 500 grams?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

6 THE COURT: How do you plead regarding Count 14?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Guilty.

8 THE COURT: As to Count 15, did you commit the crime
9 of conspiracy to distribute cocaine?

10 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

11 THE COURT: And did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
12 Gloria Ward, and others knowingly possess a firearm in
13 furtherance of that crime?

14 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

15 THE COURT: And did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
16 Gloria Ward and others discharge the firearm?

17 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

18 THE COURT: And did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
19 Gloria Ward and others use a firearm to cause the death of
20 Robert Parker, which was murder?

21 MR. MILLER: One second, Your Honor?

22 THE COURT: Uh-huh.

23 (There was a discussion held off the record between
24 Mr. Miller and the defendant.)

25 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

1 THE COURT: How do you plead regarding Count 15?

2 THE DEFENDANT: Guilty.

3 THE COURT: As to Count 16, did you commit the crime
4 of conspiracy to distribute cocaine?

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

6 THE COURT: And did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
7 Gloria Ward and others knowingly possess a firearm in
8 furtherance of that crime?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
11 Gloria Ward and others discharge the firearm?

12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

13 THE COURT: And did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
14 Gloria Ward and others use the firearm to cause the death of
15 Clara Walker, which was murder?

16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

17 THE COURT: How do you plead to Count 16?

18 THE DEFENDANT: Guilty.

19 THE COURT: As to Count 17, did you commit the crime
20 of conspiracy to distribute cocaine?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

22 THE COURT: And did you acting with another, Anthony
23 Jordan, Gloria Ward and others knowingly possess a firearm in
24 furtherance of that crime?

25 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

1 THE COURT: Did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
2 Gloria Ward and others discharge the firearm?

3 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
5 Gloria Ward and others use the firearm to cause the death of
6 Michail Gridiron, which was murder?

7 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

8 THE COURT: How do you plead to Count 17?

9 THE DEFENDANT: Guilty.

10 THE COURT: As to Count 18, did you commit the crime
11 of conspiracy to distribute cocaine?

12 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

13 THE COURT: And did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
14 Gloria Ward and others knowingly possess a firearm in
15 furtherance of that crime?

16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

17 THE COURT: And did you acting with Anthony Jordan,
18 Gloria Ward and others discharge the firearm?

19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes.

20 THE COURT: How do you plead regarding Count 18?

21 THE DEFENDANT: Guilty.

22 THE COURT: Do you know of any reason, Mr. Miller,
23 why I should not accept your client's pleas of guilty
24 regarding Counts 14 through 18 inclusive?

25 MR. MILLER: No, sir.

1 THE COURT: Do you know of any reason, Mr. Rea?

2 MR. REA: No, Your Honor, but could we make one
3 correction to the document that is before the Court at this
4 time?

5 THE COURT: Yes.

6 MR. REA: If you look at page 3, the elements of
7 Count 17.

8 THE COURT: Page 3, yes.

9 MR. REA: If you look at the last line before the
10 elements are listed, that is a count number that relates to
11 the fourth superseding indictment. This relates to the fifth
12 superseding indictment. We would like to change that number
13 to 17 to make sure it's consistent, please.

14 THE COURT: So the paragraph referencing Count 17 in
15 bold?

16 MR. REA: Yes, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: The last line before the elements should
18 read crime as charged in count what?

19 MR. REA: Seventeen.

20 THE COURT: Seventeen.

21 MR. REA: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Rather than Count 9?

23 MR. REA: Correct, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: And if you all would initial it, the
25 correction.

1 MR. MILLER: Thank you, Judge.

2 MR. REA: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 THE COURT: Uh-huh. The correction having been made
4 by interlineation and the parties to the Guilty Plea
5 Agreement having initialed the correction, the Court will now
6 enter its order, findings, and judgment as to each count; 14,
7 15, 16, 17, and 18. That the defendant is entering each plea
8 of guilty knowingly, voluntarily, and of his own free will with
9 full understanding of the nature and consequences of each
10 plea of guilty, and furthermore that he is knowingly and
11 voluntarily waiving his right to a trial by jury and all
12 rights incident thereto as they relate to each count, further
13 finding that the defendant is fully cognizant of the range of
14 punishment applicable as to each count; 14, 15, 16, 17, and
15 18. The Court now accepts defendant's pleas of guilty to
16 Counts 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 and enters its judgment finding
17 the defendant guilty beyond a reasonable doubt as to Count
18 14; guilty beyond a reasonable doubt as to Count 15; guilty
19 beyond a reasonable doubt as to Count 16; guilty beyond a
20 reasonable doubt as to Count 17; and guilty beyond a
21 reasonable doubt as to Count 18.

22 Mr. Thompson, I'm going to order a presentence
23 investigation report. Sentencing is going to be set at this
24 time for April the 29th at two o'clock in the afternoon.
25 Okay.

1 Anything else, Mr. Miller?

2 MR. MILLER: No, sir.

3 THE COURT: Mr. Rea?

4 MR. REA: No, Your Honor. Thank you for your time.

5 THE COURT: Thank you. That will conclude this
6 proceeding. We'll see you back here on April the 29th,
7 Mr. Thompson.

8 MR. MILLER: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Miller.

10 (Court in recess at 3:13 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Susan R. Moran, Registered Merit Reporter, in and for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri, do hereby certify that I was present at and reported in machine shorthand the proceedings in the above-mentioned court; and that the foregoing transcript is a true, correct, and complete transcript of my stenographic notes.

I further certify that I am not attorney for, nor employed by, nor related to any of the parties or attorneys in this action, nor financially interested in the action.

I further certify that this transcript contains pages 1 - 35 and that this reporter takes no responsibility for missing or damaged pages of this transcript when same transcript is copied by any party other than this reporter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand at St. Louis, Missouri, this 7th day of February, 2020.

/s/ Susan R. Moran
Registered Merit Reporter